

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

*Elmer*

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SUBJECT	Uranium Mining Site near Aldan 25X1A	DATE DISTR.	
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SOURCE:

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## DEFECTOR RECEPTION CENTER

COUNTRY USSR (Yakutsk ASSR)

DATE DISTR. 24 Mar. 1955

SUBJECT Uranium Mining Site near Aldan  
25X1A

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE OF INFORMATION REFERENCES: PLACE ACQUIRED 

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE 

25X1X Part of this report was obtained by a USAFE interrogator. It is being circulated by the Department of the Air Force as Report No. 615-D-SAS-776-A.

1. The uranium mine  was known locally as simply the Vasilyevka Uranium Mine. (See sketch on page 3). It was located 1 to 1½ Kilometers west of Stanitsa Vasilyevka (N 57-50, E 125-26), a settlement which was located approximately 100 kilometers, via road, from Aldan (N 58-35, E 125-24). According to local rumors, the Vasilyevka Uranium Mine was run by the Aldan Trust of the Yakutsk Gold Industry, which was itself controlled by the MVD. It was opened in 1947 or 1948. As of fall 1953, about 1,000 laborers, all of them prisoners, and about 300 free workers, who comprised the management and technical staff, were employed at the mine.<sup>1</sup> The prisoners working at the mine were all Soviets but it is not known whether or not they were political prisoners. They were kept in a corrective labor camp somewhere east of Vasilyevka and were guarded by special MVD troops.

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2.  open-pit mining activity extended for about one-half kilometers on the side nearest the road. The mining area was not enclosed by a fence. The area was illuminated for night operations. Work was divided into three eight-hour shifts.

3. According to local inhabitants, blasting at the uranium mine occurred about once every two months. Up to 40 tons of explosives were used at one time. Blasting experts came to the mine from Kuranakh (N 58-45 E 125-32) to supervise the blasting. Explosives and food supplies were delivered by ZIS-5, ZIS-50, and ZIS-150 trucks which came via the Amuro-Yakutskaya Magistral (see sketch on page 3) from Never, a station on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.<sup>2</sup> The entire Aldan area received supplies in this manner.

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4. After the trucks had delivered supplies at Vasilyevka and other settlements on the road to and including Aldan, they returned to Never, picking up cargo including 50 to 60 kilogram paper sacks of uranium ore from the Vasilyevka Uranium Mine. The uranium was transported further by railroad allegedly to the east. [redacted]  
[redacted] Approximately 300 trucks were used to haul the uranium ore from Vasilyevka to Never. While awaiting shipment, the ore was guarded by MVD personnel.

5. On page 3 there is an overlay of WAC 129, Timpton River, Scale 1:1,000,000 pinpointing the uranium site.

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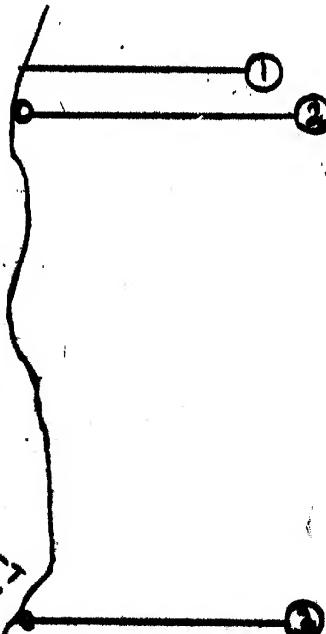
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Vasil'yevka Uranium Mine

(Overlay of WAC, 129, Timpton River,  
Scale 1:1,000,000 pinpointing Uranium  
Mining Site).

124° 30' E

69° 00' N



124° 30' E

69° 00' N

1. Amuro Yakutskaya Magistral - dirt surfaced, six meters wide, ditches 0.5 meters deep on both sides.
2. Aldan
3. Vasil'yevka
4. Vasil'yevka Uranium Mine

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